

About This Area

The Nodaway Valley Conservation Area is north of St. Joseph in Holt and Andrew counties. To reach the area, travel north on I-29 to Highway 59 (Exit 67) and head west for 3.5 miles. The 3752-acre area is then nine miles north on Highway B.

The Conservation Department purchased the area in 1991 to restore a small portion of wetlands that once flourished along the Nodaway River floodplain. A 4-mile stretch of the Nodaway River flows through the middle of the area and provides habitat for both migratory and resident wildlife species.

A major wetland development project on the Nodaway Valley Conservation Area was completed in 2002. The project enabled the restoration of more than 2,000 acres of shallow wetland habitat and more than 400 acres of prairie and bottomland hardwood forest in the Nodaway River floodplain. The development project was made possible by the contributions of a diverse group of partners, including: The North American Wetlands Conservation Act, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.; Holt County Levee District #5, The National Wild Turkey Federation, Wildlife Forever, The Missouri Prairie Foundation, Boy Scouts of America Troop 81 of Oregon, Mo., Northwest Missouri Quail Unlimited, Northland Pheasants Forever, Ideker, Inc., and the Missouri Department of Conservation.

The area is managed primarily to provide wetland habitat for a wide range of game and non-game wildlife. Management practices on the area include farming, controlled burning, planting of various trees, shrubs and grasses; and pumping and releasing water in the wetland pools.

Peak times for viewing waterfowl are mid-November and mid-March.

Things to Do

- Hunting, nature study, wildlife viewing, nature photography and frogging.
- Fishing in the Nodaway River.
- Camping in designated areas only.
- Hiking. No designated trails exist on the area.

Rules and Regulations

Area hours: Open daily from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m. Camping, hunting, fishing, dog training and launching and landing boats are permitted at any time when authorized.

- No littering.
- No fireworks.
- No open fires.
- No free-running pets. Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal consumption only. Taking of wild greens from natural areas is not allowed.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to graveled roadways and parking areas.
- Camping is permitted only in designated areas and is limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Groups of 10 campers or more must obtain a special use permit.
- Bicycles are allowed on roads open to vehicles and on roads and levees designated for their use, while being used for hunting and fishing activities.
- No target shooting allowed.
- Swimming and scuba diving are not allowed.

Fishing and Boating:

Fishing is permitted under the following special regulations:

- On impounded waters, daily limits are six black bass and four catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue and flathead catfish) and 30 crappie. All other fish are not to exceed 20 in the aggregate.
- All black bass between 12 and 15 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.
- Bullfrogs and green frogs may be taken during the statewide season only by hand, handnet, gig, longbow or hook and line and only on waters open to fishing.
 - Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is permitted on impounded waters and their discharge channels.
 - Outboard motors in excess of 10 horsepower must be operated at slow, no-wake speed.

Hunting and Trapping:

Area is open to hunting under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply.

- During certain times, portions of this area are designated as **Waterfowl Hunting Zones** (open only for waterfowl hunting and to those waterfowl hunters who receive daily permits allocated during a daily drawing), **No Hunting Zones** (Hunting is prohibited

the entire year. Non-hunting activities are only permitted from the end of the North Zone Duck Season to Oct. 14), and **Refuge Areas** (Closed to ALL uses. No admittance for any purpose).

These zones are designated on the map section of this brochure and are posted with signs around their perimeters. The remainder of the area is considered an **Open Zone** (open to hunting, fishing, nature viewing and all other uses according to statewide regulations and the special area rules and regulations outlined in this brochure). When a Special Zone is not in effect, that particular area is considered an Open Zone and is open to hunting, fishing, nature viewing and other uses according to statewide regulations and the special area rules and regulations outlined in this brochure.

Waterfowl Hunting Zone - October 15 through the end of the North Zone Duck Season.

Refuge Areas - October 15 through the end of the North Zone Duck Season.

No-Hunting Zone - Beginning at the close of the North Zone Duck Season through Oct. 14 (from Oct. 15 through the end of the North Zone Duck Season, this zone is a Waterfowl Refuge.

Waterfowl may be taken according to statewide and special area regulations on the entire area, except in the No-Hunting Zone, from the end of the North Zone Duck Season through Oct. 14. During these seasons, waterfowl hunters must possess a daily hunter record card (available in self-check-in boxes at the parking lots), record their harvest at the end of the hunt and return this information to a self check-in drop box before leaving the area.

Waterfowl may be taken in the Waterfowl Hunting Zones according to statewide seasons and limits and special area regulations, by those waterfowl hunters who receive daily permits during a daily drawing at the area headquarters (except during the special Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day(s) when daily permits are available in self check-in boxes at area parking lots). Daily drawings are conducted only during the North Zone Duck Season. Waterfowl hunting is permitted during established statewide shooting hours on that portion of the area east of the Nodaway River. Waterfowl hunting closes at 1 p.m. on that portion of the area west of the Nodaway River. No other activities are permitted in these zones, including scouting for future hunts, at any time from Oct. 15 through the end of the North Zone Duck Season.

Waterfowl may be taken in the **Open Zone** (that

portion of the area not included in the Waterfowl Hunting Zones or the Refuge Areas) according to statewide seasons and limits and special area regulations without attending the daily drawing, by obtaining a daily hunter record card (available at self check-in on area parking lots). These hunters must record their harvest at the end of the hunt and return this information to a self check-in drop box before leaving the area.

- Only portable tree stands may be placed or used and only between Sept. 15 and Jan. 31. Each stand must be identified with the name and address of the user and must be removed from the area by Feb. 1. Use of nails or other materials that would damage the tree is prohibited.

- On the portion of the Nodaway River bordered by the portion of the Nodaway Valley Conservation Area which has been designated a Waterfowl Refuge, all hunting is prohibited from Oct. 15 through the end of the North Zone Duck Season.

- Deer may be hunted, under statewide seasons and limits, by archery methods only.

- The hunting of other game species is permitted, according to statewide seasons and limits and special area regulations, in those areas not included in the Waterfowl Hunting Zones, Waterfowl Refuges and No Hunting Zones. The Waterfowl Hunting Zones and Waterfowl Refuges will open to hunting after the close of the North Zone Duck season and remain open to hunting activities, according to statewide seasons and limits and special area regulations, until Oct. 15 of the following year. The No Hunting Zone will remain closed to all hunting activities.

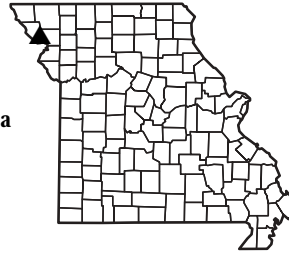
- Decoys and portable blinds are permitted but must be removed from the area daily. Blinds may be constructed on-site, but only from willows and non-woody vegetation.

- Only federally-approved, non-toxic shot may be used and possessed for all hunting with shotguns.

- Trapping of furbearers is permitted only as specifically authorized by special use permit.

(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are from Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code. Free copies of the Wildlife Code and Special Area Regulations are available from the Conservation Department.)

Nodaway Valley
Conservation Area



Welcome

Missouri is a state rich in history, folklore and natural resources. The Conservation Department encourages you to visit, use and enjoy this area and other Department areas.

Land surrounding Nodaway Valley Conservation Area belongs to private landowners. The boundaries adjoining private property are clearly marked. Please respect landowners' rights with these simple courtesies: obtain permission before going on private property, pick up all litter, be careful with fire, do not damage property, practice safe hunting.

Nearby Department Areas:

Bilby Ranch Conservation Area

Bob Brown Conservation Area

Happy Holler Conservation Area

Honey Creek Conservation Area

Jamerson C. McCormack Conservation Area

Riverbreaks Conservation Area

For local information, contact:

Missouri Department of Conservation

701 N.E. College Drive

St. Joseph, MO 64507

816/271-3100

Your comments and suggestions regarding area facilities and management are welcome.

Nodaway Valley Conservation Area

Missouri Department of
CONSERVATION

